

A-Doomsday Book
Thursday, May 26, 2011

*more art as k/r/
I and II*

X What I think I know that almost no one else does:

X ✓ --The planned mass-murderousness of US strategic nuclear war plans.

X ✓ --The reliance of our foreign policy, especially in crises, on nuclear threats. *FU/FS*; and *role of FS threats to prompt SU response or etc.*

X ✓ --The number of times such threats have been made—with varying degrees of bluff (including zero), and how close some of them have come to being carried out.

✓ --Specifically, how the Cuban Missile Crisis was resolved: by a near-meltdown involving a (non-nuclear) threat. (Now known by others: the SU contribution to this, by deployment and delegation of nucs).

X ✓ --The significantly high likelihood of accident or unauthorized action triggering war. (Known by, say, Bruce Blair).

✓ --The nature of the process and the considerations that produced the SIOP, with its "peculiar" properties; the readiness of humans to accept that posture, with all reluctance. (Ike, JFK...) *(apparently)*

X ✓ --The Faits Malaccomplis crisis pattern; the unanticipated effects of secrecy and lying on various parties, producing fury and radical response. *see if counter-measures fails (mutual harm)*

— --The JFK/McNamara VN policy in 1963; LBJ/McNamara in 1964 (see Gareth Porter?); the LBJ/McNamara policy 1964/65 (questions about McN); LBJ/McNamara April 65-Nov 65; McNamara after Nov 65, to spring 67; (see JCS revolt, Aug. 1967); LBJ April 68-Jan 69; effect of Tet leaks; *regis → bung, humiliation, ...*

— --The N/HAK VN policy (when changed to UW?); intentions after March 73;

— --How war was ended. (Earlier: non-effect of PP; effect of NSSM-1...)

✓ --Nuclear weapons in N VN policy; earlier, 1954-65.

N ✓ --Consideration of attack (preventive) on Chinese nuc facilities; India request for nuclear help (carried out?); Gilpatric Report and Rusk attitude (followed by N/HAK, Japanese); (Israel?) Help to French testing approved, JFK 1963. *only: N-P*

✓ --November ultimatum and Moratorium: Duck Hook.

— --My shifting motives on PP, and N's concerns, leading to Plumbers, impeachment hearings.

✓ *roots of SOD in S.B.*

- --Constitutional issues around 793; lack of an OSA; impact of a conviction upheld by Supreme court, on grand jury use against sources of leak; (danger posed by an OSA to all officials and former officials, threat of prosecution by subsequent administrations that "do look backward") (threat of selective prosecution, now, serves control of information: classify everything, prosecute selectively; slow up disclosure past critical moments, assure that it is not presented in context, systematically, meaningfully, and in time for opposition to policy to mobilize).
- --Role of domestic politics, esp. elections, on critical foreign policy decisions.
- ✓ --Decision theory: Crisis/catastrophe decision pattern; Kahneman/Tversky; meanings and impact of ambiguity; Ellsberg (non-)Paradox.
- Need for recognizing ambiguity in area of : threats; investment;

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